



IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

APPLICANT: Cao, et al

FILED: August 31, 2001

SERIAL NO.: 09/943,724

FOR: Inhibition of Binding of Hox and
Homeodomain Containing Proteins
And Uses Thereof

§ ART UNIT:
§ 1636

§ EXAMINER:
§ McKelvey

§ DOCKET:
§ D61061

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MS NON-FEE AMENDMENT
Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

RESPONSE TO OFFICE COMMUNICATION

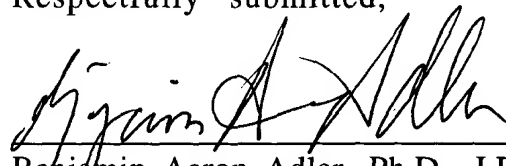
Dear Sir:

In response to an Office Communication mailed July 29, 2003 for the above-referenced patent application, Applicants request that the following amendments be entered and remarks considered.

Applicants believe no fees are due, however, if this is in error please debit all fees due from Deposit Account No. 07-1185 on which the undersigned is allowed to draw.

Respectfully submitted,

DATE: August 4, 2003
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Houston, Texas 77071
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AMENDMENT

Paragraph beginning on line 8 of page 55 has been amended as follows:

Hox proteins have a similar homeodomain (HD) in common, consisting of a highly conserved DNA binding motif of 60 amino acids (Sharley, et al., 1995). Besides the homeotic domain that lies from amino acids (aa) 149 to 209, Hoxc-8 contains two other conserved peptide regions: an octapeptide (aa 1-8) and a hexapeptide (aa 137-142) (Le Mouellic et al, 1998). The hexapeptide of Leu-Met-Phe-Pro-Trp-Met (SEQ ID NO: 11) lies upstream from the homeodomain and is presumably involved in the interaction with Hox-assisting cofactors (Phelan et al, 1995 and Sharley et al., 1997). A recent study has revealed a direct contact between the pentapeptide of Hoxb-1 and its DNA binding partner, the Pbx1 protein (Piper, et al., 1999).



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§ D6106D

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Dear Sir:

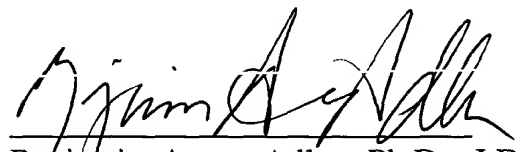
I hereby certify under 37 CFR 1.8 that the following correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service as first class mail with sufficient postage on the date indicated below and is addressed to MS NON-FEE AMENDMENT, Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450.

- 1) Response and Amendment (3 pages); and
- 2) Return postcard.

Please return the enclosed postcard acknowledging receipt of this correspondence.

Respectfully submitted,

Date: Aug 4, 2003
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